

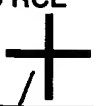
APR 28 2003

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Mail Stop RCE
PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number 09/917,796

Filing Date July 31, 2001

First Named Inventor Schaeffer

Group Art Unit 1775

Examiner Name McNeill

Attorney Docket Number 839-856

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This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**a. ☒ Previously submittedi. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on March 31, 2003
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____iii. ☐ Other _____b. ☐ Enclosedi. ☐ Amendment/Replyii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)iv. ☐ Other _____2. **Miscellaneous**a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 35 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)b. ☐ Other _____3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 14-1140i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)iii. ☐ Other _____

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b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$1050.00 is enclosed (\$750.00 for RCE fee and \$300.00 extension fee (\$410.00 less \$110.00 fee previously filed on March 31, 2003)c. ☐ Payment by credit card (For PTO-2038 enclosed)**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print Type)

James T. Hosmer

Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)

30,184

Signature

Date

April 28, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

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